

SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

10/6/04

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

SB 1206 (Van Woerkom)

SB 1206 would amend the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Act to, among other things, allow (rather than require) a local unit with a population of less than 20,000 to pass a housing inspection ordinance; permit a NEZ certificate to remain in effect for six to 12 years (rather than 12 years); and, allow a NEZ certificate for a rehabilitated facility constituting a "qualified historic building" to remain in effect for 11 to 17 years.

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 1206 [RC 727: 37 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

HB 4766 (Pastor)

HB 4766 would: 1) Require a home for the aged seeking a license or a license renewal to have an emergency generator system. 2) Exempt a home for the aged that was licensed on the bill's effective date from the emergency generator system requirement until the home underwent major building modification; and require an exempt home for the aged to have an executed written contract for the use of a generator in the event of an electrical supply interruption. 3) Establish a civil penalty for a home for the aged that did not comply with the requirements described above. 4) Require a nursing home to have an emergency generator system.

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 4766 [RC 728: 36 yes, 0 no].

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 1081 (Johnson)

SB 1081 would eliminate current language that requires MDOT to provide technical assistance to local transportation and planning agencies. Also, the bill would prohibit MDOT from contracting with public organizations to perform ridesharing matching programs, unless a private organization were not available. Under the bill, the Department still would be required to contract with private organizations to perform ridesharing matching programs. The bill also would strike a current requirement.

- PRUSI 1 (S-2) was defeated [no RC]. This would have limited the reduction in ride share funding to one year.
- Johnson 2 (1 amend) was adopted [no RC].

• SB 1081 passed [RC 729: 22 yes, 16 no]. The vote passing the bill was reconsidered and postponed temporarily.

SB 1383 (Gilbert)

SB 1383 would delete a limit on the outstanding balance of purchases by a county road commission; and increase the amount of money a county road commission may spend without advertising for sealed proposals. By removing a limit on the outstanding balance of purchases by a county road commission, the bill would increase the amount of purchases that a county road commission may make using an installment method (i.e., debt). The removal of this limit could result in additional debt issuance by county road commissions.

• SB 1383 passed [RC 730: 38 yes, 0 no].

HB 4600 (Gaffney)

HB 4600 would prohibit minors with a graduated drivers license from transporting more than one passenger under the age of 21, other than family members, in their vehicle. This restriction would apply to all drivers under 17 years of age.

Support: AAA, State Police.

Oppose: Secretary of State.

- Gilbert 1 (S-4) was defeated [no RC].
- Garcia 1A (1 amend) was adopted [no RC]. This would exempt those drivers aged 18 with a high school diploma (or GED).
- LELAND 1B (1 amend) was defeated [no RC]. This would have prohibited minor drivers from engaging in distracting behavior (eating, talking on the phone, etc.) which are main causes of accidents for these drivers
- JACOBS 1C (1 amend) was defeated [no RC]. This would have allowed for parental control of driving decisions: A minor could drive more than 1 other minor if they had a note from their parents stating they (the parent) approved.
- JACOBS 1D (1 amend) was defeated [no RC]. This would have prohibited minors from talking on a cell phone while driving.
- Garcia 2 was adopted [no RC]. Redo of Garcia 1A: This would exempt those drivers aged 18 with a high school diploma (or GED).
- JACOBS 3 (1 amend) was defeated [no RC]. Redo of JACOBS 1C: This would have allowed for parental control of driving decisions: A minor could drive more than 1 other minor if they had a note from their parents stating they (the parent) approved.
- BERNERO 4 (1amend) was defeated [no RC]. This would have made the bill prohibitions apply at night (i.e., after 9:00PM).
- HB 4600 was defeated [RC 735: 17 yes, 21 no]. Hammerstrom moved to reconsider the vote defeating passage of the bill, however, her motion was, itself, was defeated [no RC]. Hammerstrom then withdrew her motion to reconsider the vote defeating passage of HB 4600.

HB 5874 (Kooiman)

HB 5874 would revise the manner in which a dental patient's care and treatment information may be disclosed. Under the Code, information relative to the care and treatment of a dental patient acquired as a result of providing professional dental services is confidential and privileged. A dentist or a dentist's employee may not

disclose that information except with the written consent of the patient or his or her attorney. Under the bill, the information could not be disclosed except as otherwise permitted or required under federal health care information privacy law.

- HB 5874 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.
- HB 5874 passed with IE [RC 734: 38 yes, 0 no].

HB 6047 (Ward)

HB 6047 would provide that, if the joint plan of a joint planning commission allocated land for a particular use within the territory of a participating municipality and the jurisdictional area of the commission, then the joint plan would not have to allocate land for that use within the territory of any other participating municipality. In addition, the plan of a participating municipality would not have to allocate for that use land that was within the municipality's territory but outside the jurisdictional area of the joint planning commission.

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted.
- HB 6047 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- HB 6047 passed with IE [RC 731: 38 yes, 0 no].

HB 6230 (Palmer) HB 6231 (Palmer)

House Bills 6230 and 6231 would require the Michigan Education Assessment Program (MEAP) test to administered to pupils during the last 90 school days of grade 11. Currently, schools must administer the test during the last 30 schools of grade 11.

HB 6230:

- HB 6230 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.
- HB 6230 passed with IE [RC 732: 38 yes, 0 no].

HB 6231:

- HB 6231 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.
- HB 6231 passed with IE [RC 733: 38 yes, 0 no].

THIRD READING

SB 1150 (Hardiman)

SB 1150 would delete the current requirement that a health maintenance contract include basic health services, but specify that the contract would have to include "preventive health care services." The bill increases the maximum allowable out-of-pocket costs from \$3,000 for a single person and \$6,000 for a family to \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Support: MI Assn. of Health Plans, MAHP, HAP, Physicians Health Plan, Alliance Health, Priority Health, Health Plus, America's Health Insurance Plans, National Federation of Independent Businesses, MI Nurses Assn.

Oppose: UAW, SEIU -- Shifts health care costs to the employee.

• Committee 1 (S-1) was defeated.

- Hardiman 2 (S-3) was adopted.
- Hardiman 2A (1 amend) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 1150 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4703 (WHITMER)

HB 4703 would increase construction permit and license fees for campgrounds and public swimming pools. The proposed campground fees would raise about \$215,700.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was defeated.
- HB 4703 was moved to 3rd Reading.